

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 SY-10 CU-04 OC-06 CCO-00

RSR-01 /131 W

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R 301530 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9977

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

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E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB PFOR PINS SW US CB

SUBJECT: SWEDISH MAY DAY ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY: MAY DAY HIGHLIGHTS IN 1973 EXPECTED BE SAP- LO ATTENTION TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS AND 75 TH LO ANNIVERSARY PLUS BOW TO CAMBODIA " GOVERNMENT IN EXILE." PARTY LEADER PALME WILL SPEAK IN STOCKHOLM. SWEDISH UNITED FNL GROUPS (DFFG) WILL ATTEMPT REINVIGORATE FLAGGING PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THEIR ANTI- US LINE IN JOINT DEMONSTRATION WITH TWO COMMUNIST PARTIES WHILE OTHER FAR- LEFT GROUPS WILL DEMONSTRATE SEPARATELY. END SUMMARY.

1. PLANNED MAY DAY ACTIVITIES IN SWEDEN, ARE RETURNING MORE TO NORMAL IN 1973 , FOLLOWING LAST YEAR' S " GRAND COALITION" ENGINEERED BY DFFG AND SAP/ LO WHICH TURNED OUT A RECORD 40,000-50,000 PERSONS DEMANDING " US OUT OF VIETNAM." HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR LIKELY TO BE EMPHASIS BY SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SAP) AND SWEDISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERA-
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TION (LO) ON MORE TRADITIONAL DOMESTIC CONCERNS, SEPTEMBER ELECTIONS, LO' S 75 TH ANNIVERSARY, PLUS EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN SAP/ GOS INITIATIVE ON INDO- CHINA PROTEST BY INCLUDING CAMBODIAN " GOVERNMENT IN EXILE" SPEAKERS. CHEA SAN, IDENTIFIED AS " MINISTER OF JUSTICE," REPORTEDLY INVITED BY SAP ONLY TWO DAYS AGO, WILL ADDRESS SAP/ LO ADHERENTS IN STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATELY BEFORE SAP LEADER OLOF PALME MAKES MAIN SPEECH. OTHER SAP- LO LEADERS PERFORMING AT MEETINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AROUND THE COUNTRY WILL INCLUDE NEW LO CHAIRMAN GUNNAR NILSSON AT GOTHENBURG AND FINANCE MINSTER GUNNAR STRANG AT MALMO.

2. MEANWHILE, DFFG WILL BE DOING ITS BEST TO KEEP UP ITS ANTI- US LINE OF INDO- CHINA IN PARED DOWN JOINT DEMONSTRATION INCLUDING SWEDISH PARTY OF LEFT, COMMUNISTS (VPK), SWEDISH COMMUNIST PARTY (SKP- FORMER KFML) AND OTHER LEFTISTS AND COMMUNIST GROUPS. (DFFG HAS SUFFERED SOME SETBACKS SINCE EVENTS REPORTED IN STOCKHOLM 1328-- PLANNED ROUNDTHE- CLOCK DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST US BOMBING IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA HAVE FIZZLED ALMOST COMPLETELY AND BRASH THREAT BY DFFG LEADER TO PREVENT DR. KISSINGER FROM VISITING SWEDISH WAS MET BY EDITORIAL REBUFFS FROM SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PAPERS WHICH ARE NORMALLY DFFG SUPPORTERS.)

3. OTHER, SMALL, COMMUNIST GROUPS WILL BE DEMONSTRATING OR HOLDING MEETINGS SEPARATELY. MARCH AND DEMONSTRATION OF COMMUNIST LEAGUE (FORBUNDET KOMMUNIST - SPLINTER GROUP FROM PRE-1970 COMMUNIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION) WILL FEATURE SPEECHES BY SWEDISH WILDCAT STRIKE LEADERS. AS USUAL REVOLUTIONARY AND ACTIVIST KFML (R) WILL BE MARCHING SEPARATELY. COMPLETING ACTIVITIES OF MUCH- SPLINTERED FAR- LEFT, " SYNDICALISTS" AND THE SO- CALLED " SOCIALIST FRONT" WILL NOT MARCH BUT WILL HOLD SEPARATE MEETINGS AT SERGELS TORG IN FRONT OF RIKSDAG.

4. COMMENT: MOST SWEDES ARE LIKELY TO SPEND MAY DAY IN THEIR ISLAND CABINS OR COUNTRY HOMES WHERE THEY ARE ENJOYING AN EXTENDED HOLIDAY WEEKEND, BUT THE ELECTION YEAR, 75 TH ANNIVERSARY OF LO AND CONCERN OVER SITUATION IN CAMBODIA MAY PREVENT A SHARP DROP IN INTEREST THIS YEAR, WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN EXPECTED FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAST YEAR' S MAY DAY EXTRAVAGANZA.
OLSEN

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